



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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BARRETT SENDS STRONG MESSAGE TO CRUISERS

Mayor signs ordinances creating stiffer penalties for cruising

MILWAUKEE – Mayor Tom Barrett today signed two new City ordinances into law that create stiffer penalties for cruising. Barrett signed the ordinances at 27th and Capitol, an area where cruising has created havoc for neighborhood residents and put an unnecessary strain on police resources. The Mayor was joined by Milwaukee Police District 7 Captain Donald Gaglione and other Milwaukee police officers.

“We are sending a strong message: cruising in the City of Milwaukee will not be tolerated,” said Barrett. “No matter what neighborhood you are in, residents do not want to be awakened in the middle of the night by car stereos blaring and horns honking. This kind of behavior is disrespectful and dangerous and we will crack down on people who choose to take part in it.”

The first ordinance the Mayor signed this afternoon doubles the fines for cruising in designated no-cruising areas to a range of \$100 to \$400. For certain noise violations, cruisers could be fined to a maximum of \$1,000. The ordinance also increases fines for other violations, such as disorderly conduct, in no-cruising areas from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

The second ordinance allows the city to seize vehicles that have been involved in "unlawful assemblies" two or more times, regardless of who is driving.

Barrett continued, “I believe we need to give law enforcement the tools they need to crack down on cruising to discourage this risky and disruptive activity. With our limited financial resources, I am far more interested in keeping our pools open at 3:00 in the afternoon than giving people something to do in the middle of the night. I want to thank the Council for their swift action on these ordinances and I encourage would-be cruisers to take heed.”